

UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND

Computer Centre

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Date : Week ended 30 September 1971
Authorization : Director of the Computer Centre

1. OPERATIONS

1.1 PDP-10 System

Friday	24 September	System failure, offline 1410-1414, 1500-1528, 1700-1714, 1725-1730, 1852-1900.
Monday	27 September	System failure, offline 1043-1053, 1430-1440.
Tuesday	28 September	System failure, offline 1346-1400 Console Teletype hung up, monitor reloaded 1914.
Wednesday	29 September	Card reader maintenance 1810-1822.
Thursday	30 September	System failure, offline 1450-1500, 1507-1502, 1615-1627.

Schedule for forthcoming week: Maintenance 0700-0900, 2300-2400.
Operations 1000-2215.

1.2 GE-225 System

Schedule for forthcoming week: Maintenance 0700-0900, 2000-2130
Operations 0900-2000, 2130-2400.

2. FORTHCOMING COURSES

Two Computer Centre courses are to be held in October. Both courses will be held in Lecture Room B18 of the Main Engineering Building. People wishing to attend either of these courses should complete a 'Nomination for Computer Course' before the closing date, 18 October.

(a) FORTRAN

This is an introductory course on FORTRAN-IV programming. No prerequisite knowledge is required. The course consists of afternoon lectures from 2 to 6 p.m. on 25th to 29th October inclusive.

(b) MACRO

This is an introductory course to MACRO-10 programming. MACRO-10 is the assembly language for the PDP-10 and a knowledge of FORTRAN-IV is required for this course. Lectures will be held from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on the six mornings of 25th to 27th October and 1st to 3rd November.

Further details may be obtained from the Computer Centre Secretary, extension 688.

3. EXTENSION OF CONSULTING HOURS

From Monday 4 October, the hours available for programmer consultations will be extended. The new hours will be:

Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday 2 p.m. - 4.30 p.m.

Thursday

Wednesday and Friday 10.30 a.m. - 1.00 p.m.

While prior appointments for a consultation will not be necessary during these hours, preference will be given to clients who make appointments in advance. Note that, as previously, requests for consultation must be made through the Administrative Officer, Mr John Jauncey. Similarly, phone enquiries on programming problems must be directed to Mr Jauncey, extension 8471.

The member of staff available for consultation has other responsibilities for the smooth running of the system which will take priority over his consulting functions. These arrangements have been made in part to reduce the number of interruptions to staff members who have a very heavy commitment to the developmental work of the Centre. Consequently, consultation will not be given outside the above hours. Any direct approaches to programmers or requests for consultation outside of the advertised times will be refused.

4. NEW MONITOR

A new monitor became operational on Thursday 23 September. The changes incorporated do not affect the user directly, but have improved the handling of error situations.

5. PDP-10 FORTRAN

When attempting to skip records in a non-formatted disk file, it is necessary to include a dummy variable in the write statement, thus

READ(10) X is satisfactory but
READ(10) is not.

6. BMD PROGRAMS

Nine of the BMD programs have been released for users. These programs have been documented in the special newsletter attached.